

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 00153 100812Z

21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SAM-01 /075 W

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O R 091723Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4174

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USEC BRUSSELS 1887

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 0153

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, PFOR, SP, FR

SUBJ: PSOE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES-FORTHCOMING VISIT OF SOCIALIST
INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION HEADED BY MITTERRAND

REF: (A) PARIS 33587; (B) COPENHAGEN 3628

BEGIN SUMMARY. SPANISH PSOE LEADER HAS TOLD EMBOFF THAT VISIT TO SPAIN

OF MITTERRAND HEADING LARGE DELEGATION FROM SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

(SI) IS NOW TENTATIVELY EXPECTED COMMENCE JAN 14, VISIT IN PSOE'S

VIEW WILL GRAPHICALLY DEMONSTRATE SUPPORT OF EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS

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PAGE 02 MADRID 00153 100812Z

FOR PSOE AND ITS FIRST SECRETARY, FELIPE GONZALEZ, AT CRITICAL

TIME. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING LUIS YANES, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER OF QTE ILLEGAL UN QTE
SOCIALIST PSOE RESPONSIBLE FOR PARTY'S INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
AND A PRINCIPAL AIDE TO PSOE FIRST SECRETARY FELIPE
GONZALEZ, "STUDY MISSION" OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL (SI) LED BY
FRANCOIS MITTERRAND (REF A) IS NOW SCHEDULED ARRIVE MADRID JAN 14.
(YANES CAUTIONED THAT ARRIVAL DATE HAS ALREADY BEEN CHANGED THREE
TIMES, AND COULD BE CHANGED AGAIN). "STUDY MISSION" WILL HAVE 10-15
REPS FROM LEADING SOCIALIST PARTIES IN SI, INCLUDING AUSTRIAN
SECGEN OF SI, PETER JANICHEK, AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE
BRITISH LABOR PARTY (JENNIE LITTLE),
WEST GERMAN SPD, SCANDINAVIAN AND ITALIAN SOCIALIST PARTIES AND,
INTERESTINGLY, ONE FROM ISRAELI LABOR PARTY.

2. YANES SAID MITTERRAND WILL ONLY VISIT MADRID FOR 48 HOURS, BUT
THAT REST OF SI DELEGATION WILL REMAIN IN SPAIN
SEVERAL DAYS AND VISIT OTHER CITIES INCLUDING SEVILLE, BILBAO,
AND BARCELONA. MITTERRAND HAS LEFT PROGRAM ENTIRELY IN HANDS OF HIS
HOSTS, FELIPE GONZALEZ AND PSOE, AND HAS NOT ASKED TO MEET WITH ANY
OTHER SPANISH OPPOSITION GROUPS (MUCH LESS WITH ANYONE IN GOVT).
HIS MADRID VISIT IS, HOWEVER, SCHEDULED TO INCLUDE A PRESS CONFERENCE.

YANES DID NOT ANTICIPATE ANY TROUBLE WITH NOR HARASSMENT FROM THE
AUTHORITIES, IN LIGHT OF THE NEW AND TOLERANT SPIRIT BEING
DISPLAYED BY NEW GOVT TOWARDS OPPOSITION AND MITTERRAND'S
INTERNATIONAL STATURE.

3. YANES SAID PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO DEMONSTRATE SUPPORT OF SI
FOR PSOE, SOLE SPANISH SOCIALIST PARTY MEMBER
OF SI, AND IS LOGICAL FOLLOW-UP TO EARLIER SEMI-CLANDESTINE VISITS
TO SPAIN DURING 1975 OF SOCIALIST PARTY
AND/OR TRADE UNION AFFILIATES FROM SWEDEN, DENMARK, WEST GERMANY,
AND NETHERLANDS TO PSOE AND/OR TO ITS AFFILIATED TRADE UNION,
THE UGT. VISIT IS ALSO DESIGNED TO SHOW
NEW SPANISH GOVT THAT WESTERN EUROPE'S SOCIALISTS ARE WATCHING IT
CLOSELY AND EXPECT IT MOVE TOWARD DEMOCRATIZING COUNTRY.
YANES ADDED THAT MITTERRAND'S VISIT ALSO HAS A SPECIFIC FRENCH
POLITICAL PURPOSE IN THAT FRENCH SOCIALISTS VIEW VISIT AS A PUBLIC
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PAGE 03 MADRID 00153 100812Z

COUNTER (AND CONTRAST) TO RECENT VISIT OF FRENCH PRESIDENT
GISCARD D'ESTAING TO MADRID TO ATTEND JUAN CARLOS' TE DEUM MASS.

4. YANES SAID THAT FOLLOWING SI VISIT TO SPAIN, PSOE LEADER
FELIPE GONZALEZ WILL HEAD PSOE DELEGATION TO JAN 18-19 MEETING
OF EUROPEAN SOCIALIST HEADS OF GOVT AND PARTY LEADERS (REF B)
SCHEDULED TO BE HELD OUTSIDE COPENHAGEN. SUBSEQUENTLY GONZALEZ
WILL HEAD PSOE DELEGATION FOR CONFERENCE OF SOCIALIST PARTIES OF

SOUTHERN EUROPE IN PARIS JAN 24-25 (REF A).

5. COMMENT - GONZALEZ AND THE PSOE ARE ENJOYING THE PRESTIGE OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS WITH EUROPEANS (MOST RECENTLY MEETINGS WITH WILLY BRANDT AND OLAF PALME) ALTHOUGH THERE IS SOME COST IN SPAIN TO CLOSE IDENTIFICATION WITH FOREIGNERS, PARTICULARLY PALME. MITTERRAND'S VISIT, AS A PROJECT OF THE SI, WILL HAVE THE SUPPORT OF WESTERN EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS, BUT WE SUSPECT AN ELEMENT OF "MEDITERRANEAN" ONEUPSMANSHIP VIS-A-VIS THE "NORTHERN" SOCIALISTS. WHAT TROUBLES US, ALTHOUGH OUR CONCERN MAY BE ILL-FOUNDED, IS THAT MITTERRAND MIGHT USE THE VISIT TO ESPOUSE SOCIALIST/COMMUNIST COOPERATION IN SPAIN ON THE FRENCH MODEL, SOMETHING THAT GONZALEZ HAS UP TO NOW STAUNCHLY REFUSED EVEN THOUGH THERE IS A LIMITED DEGREE OF COOPERATION ON SPECIFIC ISSUES BETWEEN THE OPPOSITION COALITION (PLATAFORM DE CONVERGENCIA) OF WHICH THE PSOE IS THE MOST PROMINENT MEMBER, AND THE COMMUNIST-MANIPULATED JUNTA DEMOCRATICA (NOW MEETING IN PARIS). A FURTHER CONCERN IN THIS RESPECT COMES FROM A BRITISH EMBOFF HERE WHO TOLD US THAT BRITISH LABOR PARTY, DELEGATION TO THE COPENHAGEN MEETING WILL ENCOURAGE GONZALEZ TOWARD UNIFICATION WITH OTHER SPANISH SOCIALISTS AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GROUPS NOT CURRENTLY RECOGNIZED BY THE SI, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE PSP OF TIerno GALVAN, WHICH IS UNFORTUNATELY STILL A MEMBER OF THE JUNTA DEMOCRATICA FRONT WITH THE PCE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOCIALISM, POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY LEADERS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MADRID00153
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760009-0885
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760169/aaaacjgf.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 PARIS 33587, 76 COPENHAGEN 3628
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2004 by izenbei0>; RELEASED <24 MAR 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <29 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PSOE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES-FORTHCOMING VISIT OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION HEADED BY MITTERRAND
TAGS: PINT, ELAB, PFOR, SP, FR, (MITTERRAND, FRANCOIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006